

## EQIP 2009 Organic/Specialty Crop Ranking Tool

Land Uses: Crop, Hay, Headquarters, Pasture

### National Priorities:

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of non-point source pollution, such as nutrients, sediment, pesticides, excess salinity in impaired watersheds with total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) where available, groundwater contamination or point sources such as contamination from confined animal feeding operations?	5
2	Will the treatment you intend to implement for water conservation or irrigation efficiency using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in water use?	1
3	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of emissions, such as particulate matter, nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds, and ozone precursors and depleters that contribute to air quality impairment violations of National Ambient Air Quality Standards?	5
4	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in soil erosion and sedimentation from unacceptable levels on agricultural land?	19
5	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable increase in the promotion of at-risk species habitat conservation?	10
6	Will the treatment that you intend to implement using EQIP result in considerable benefits to residue management, nutrient management, air quality management, invasive species management, pollinator habitat, and animal carcass management technology or pest management?	5
7	Will the treatment that you intend to implement using EQIP result in energy conservation benefits?	5
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>50</b>

### State Issues:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Does the producer have a current conservation plan (plan that adequately addresses soil erosion, water quality, including nutrients if applicable) or an Organic Transition Plan for the operation he/she is proposing for contract?	15
	2	Is the area proposed for contract located in one of the sub-watersheds that NRCS is targeting due to excess sediment and nutrients?	10
	3	Is the producer willing to implement vegetative practices to improve habitat for wildlife such as birds and pollinators?	15
	4	Will the proposed practices control soil loss to the tolerance soil loss level (T)?	10
	5	Is polluted runoff reaching streams or other water bodies and the producer is willing to correct the situation?	10
	6	Is soil quality going to be improved through the use of cover crops or managing crop residues?	10
	7	Are agricultural wastes a concern and the producer is willing to use composting to treat them?	20
<b>Maximum Points: 90 Total Points</b>			<b>90</b>

**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices\*:**
**(See next page for additional practices)**

Practice	Soil Condition: Compaction	Soil Condition: Organic Matter Depletion	Soil Erosion: Classic Gully	Soil Erosion: Ephemeral Gully	Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill	Soil Erosion: Streambank
Access Road (560)			X	X		
Animal Trails and Walkways			X		X	X
Conservation Cover (327)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)	X	X	X		X	
Contour Buffer Strips (332)			X	X	X	
Contour Farming (330)			X	X	X	
Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Area (331)			X	X	X	
Cover Crop (340)	X	X	X	X	X	
Critical Area Planting (342)			X	X	X	X
Deep Tillage ((324)	X					
Diversion (362)			X	X	X	
Fence (382)			X	X	X	X
Field Border (386)				X	X	
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)			X	X		X
Grassed Waterway (412)			X	X		
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)			X	X	X	
Hedgerow Planting (422)				X	X	
Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)			X	X		
Mulching (484)	X	X		X	X	X
Obstruction Removal (500)			X	X	X	X
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Prescribed Grazing (528)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Residue Mgmt-No- Till/StripTill/Direct S (329)	X	X		X	X	
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)	X	X			X	X
Roof Runoff Structure (558)			X	X	X	
Sediment Basin (350)			X	X	X	
Spring Development (574)					X	X
Stream Crossing (578)						X
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)						X
Structure for Water Control (587)			X	X	X	
Subsurface Drain (606)			X	X	X	X
Terrace (600)			X	X	X	
Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)	X	X		X	X	X
Underground Outlet (620)			X	X	X	X
Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)			X	X	X	
Watering Facility (614)			X		X	X
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)					X	

**\*Practices listed above may have changed. Check with your local field office or EQIP Program Manager. See the EQIP Program Website at <http://www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/index.html>**

**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices\*:****(See next page for additional practices)**

Practice	Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater	Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water	Water Quality: Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water	Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pesticides in Groundwater	Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pesticides in Surface Water
Access Control (472)	X	X	X		
Access Road (560)		X	X		
Animal Trails and Walkways (575)		X	X		
Composting Facility (317)	X	X	X		
Conservation Cover (327)	X	X	X		X
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)	X	X	X	X	X
Contour Farming (330)		X	X		X
Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Area (331)		X	X		X
Cover Crop (340)	X	X	X	X	X
Critical Area Planting (342)		X	X		
Diversion (362)	X	X	X		
Feed Management (592)	X	X			
Fence (382)		X	X		
Field Border (386)		X	X		X
Filter Strip (393)	X	X	X	X	X
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)		X	X		
Grassed Waterway (412)	X	X	X		X
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)	X	X	X		
Hedgerow Planting (422)		X	X		X
Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)		X	X		
Mulching (484)		X	X		X
Obstruction Removal (500)	X	X	X		
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)		X	X		X

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**(See next page for additional practices)**

Practice	Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater	Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water	Water Quality: Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water	Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pesticides in Groundwater	Water Quality: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land
Pest Management (595)		X		X	X
Nutrient Management (590)	X	X	X		
Pipeline (516)		X	X		
Pond Sealing - Clay Treatment (521D)	X	X			
Pond Sealing or Lining, Bentonite Sealant (521C)	X	X			
Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible Membrane (521A)	X	X			
Pond Sealing or Lining, Soil Dispersant (521B)	X	X			
Prescribed Grazing (528)	X	X	X		
Pumping Plant (533)		X	X		
Residue Mgmt-No- Till/StripTill/Direct S (329)		X	X		X
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)	X	X	X		X
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)	X	X	X		X
Roof Runoff Structure (561)	X	X	X		
Sediment Basin (350)		X	X		X
Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility (632)	X	X			
Spring Development (574)		X	X		
Stream Crossing (578)		X	X		
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)		X	X		
Structure for Water Control (587)		X	X		
Subsurface Drain (606)			X		
Terrace (600)			X		
Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)		X	X		X
Underground Outlet (620)		X	X		
Vegetated Treatment Area (635)	X	X	X		
Waste Storage Facility (313)	X	X	X		
Waste Treatment (629)	X	X	X		
Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)		X	X		X
Water Well (642)		X			
Watering Facility (614)		X	X		
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)		X	X		X

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**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices\*:**

Practice	Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Cover/Shelter
Access Control (472)	X
Conservation Cover (327)	X
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)	X
Cover Crop (340)	X
Fence (382)	X
Field Border (386)	X
Grassed Waterway (412)	X
Hedgerow Planting (422)	X
Pasture and Hay Planting (512)	X
Prescribed Grazing (528)	X
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)	X
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)	X
Stream Crossing (578)	X
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)	X
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)	X
Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)	X
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)	X
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)	X

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